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### General Summary of News.

#### ASIA.

The H. C. Chartered Ship *Princess Charlotte* arrived in the River on Sunday, and the Letters brought by her reached town yesterday noon, but they will not be ready for delivery, as we were informed at the Post Office, until noon to-day, twenty-four hours being necessary to assort, register, and mark them, before they are sent into circulation, as they amount to about 5000 in number. The list of Passengers by this Ship will be found in its usual place.

The arrivals of yesterday, include the Medway from London the 19th of July, which Ship also brings a Packet, and a second *Princess Charlotte* from Liverpool the 3rd of July, neither of which vessels bring any Passengers.

The Medway, we learn, has brought London Papers, to the 17th of July, but in the Extra issued on this occasion last evening, from the India Gazette press, we do not observe any article of great interest, except the mention of a grant of £50,000 by the Parliament to encourage emigration to the Cape, a step, which we think highly important, and likely to be attended with the greatest benefits both to the colony and the mother country.

The principal articles contained in the Papers that have reached us up to the 10th of July, have been already published in our Journal. We have therefore devoted our present Number to Asiatic Intelligence, which, as our Correspondents from the interior increase in number daily, promises to occupy in future a large share of our attention, and remove that general dearth of Indian information which has long and so justly been complained of.

There is no portion of the British Empire so imperfectly known to those who have not actually visited it, as India;—there is no quarter of the globe that furnishes more abundant sources of interesting materials for publication;—there are few tracts of country over which are widely scattered such a body of well-educated and intelligent men;—there is no nation in which greater freedom of enquiry, research, and discussion, is permitted through the press;—yet with all this, there is not a metropolis in the world,—we might add perhaps not a provincial town in Europe or America, at which only one Journal may be printed,—that has its public Prints so barren of local information as this City of Calcutta, which forms the head quarters of a Government over sixty millions of people, and has seven separate Gazettes printed every week.

It is not for us to say with whom this reproach rests. It is unquestionably not with the Government, which must be pleased to see the resources of the country in literary stores put into as active requisition as those of her physical and political riches and strength. It is not the country itself, since this, as we have before said, abounds with ample and interesting materials. It is not with the difficulty or expense of transmission, since all our readers in the interior already know the terms on which we have solicited their contributions. It cannot be, we should hope, on the indolence or apathy, or spirit of objection to "pernicious publicity," which prevails among Indian residents in the country. Nor is it, in some instances at least, we pledge ourselves, with the unwillingness on the part of the Editors of public Papers, to communicate freely, all that they may deem in any way interesting to the community. Yet, on some one of these, or on the whole collectively, the reproach must lie, since the fact of the barrenness of Indian Journals on Indian subjects is notorious; and scarcely a Number is issued from either of the presses of the three Presidencies, that is not almost wholly made up of European information, as if what was passing about us here was not merely of inferior importance, but not worthy of notice, or the trouble of recording at all.

Let us hope that the grounds for this reproach will be lessened every day; and since it must be evident to those in the interior, that we cannot call up the faculty of creating information at will, but that we are as dependant on their communications for intelligence of what is passing around them, as they are on us for the transmission of all news from abroad; let us hope that the facilities which now offer, of mutual aid in this respect, and of giving to Europe some return in Indian intelligence, for the interesting details which every vessel brings us from thence, will not be disregarded, but that India, now at peace, will excite, by her re-

novated press, as much interest in Europe to be possessed, through her periodical works, of researches into her hidden stores of literature, as the fame of her arms during war did a desire to become possessed of information regarding her conquest over hostile states.

We do not offer this as a preface to the information we have to detail, particularly to-day, but rather to draw the attention of our readers to the means that are in their own hands, of accomplishing what is still "a consummation devoutly to be wished," an emulative spirit of enquiry and research;—and if others sneer at the attempts to elucidate, by a collision of opinions, matters heretofore manacled in chains, and smothered in embryo, we shall still be found ever ready to follow up the benevolent wishes and intentions of the Government, in encouraging freely the talents of our contributors, and putting them out to profitable interest, rather than wrapping them in a napkin," under the hope, that the march of knowledge and civilization, and the general diffusion of all that is interesting in Politics, Science, and Literature, will be such, as the freezing hand of Envy itself cannot arrest, and such as may deposit the seeds of future blessings in a soil, which shall, even in our own days if Providence see fit, yield "some fifty and some an hundred fold."

*Subathoo*.—Letters have reached us from this Station, dated October 26, by which we learn, that the *Cholera Morbus* prevailed there; and that throughout the Dhoon, it had committed, and was still committing, great ravages. Among other instances cited, is the remarkable and melancholy fact, that out of 1200 men of the Goorkhali Corps, 70 were carried off by this disease, in the short space of two days; and on all those who were attacked, no medical treatment had any effect.

*Matra*.—Our last Letters from this Station extend to the 31st of October, and one of these, states, that one wing of the 4th Cavalry was to commence its march towards Neemutch, to relieve the 3d, in the course of a few days from that date.

*Moorshedabad*.—Our Letters from this Station, of the 6th of Nov. convey to us the following general information, which we give in extracts from them as they occur:—

The weather, for some days past, has been cool and pleasant, indicating the approach of the cold season.

Grain still continues high, to the great distress of the middling as well as the lower classes of natives, though the pressure of the calamity, must be most felt by the latter, and this at a time when the existence of any real scarcity, is extremely doubtful. The Mahajans and Chowdries of the numerous Ganges, are possessed of sufficient quantities to supply the market at more reasonable rates, while the produce of the Rara, or western lands has been favourable, but is kept back by the Chowdries and Arundels with the view of still further enhancing the price.

Not only the Natives, but the Assistants in the Public Offices, in whose families rice is a great article of consumption, and in short, every individual, whose income is limited, with a family to provide for, must sensibly feel the additional expense, as the price of every other necessary of life increases in a ratio with that of grain.

The situation of the labouring class of Natives is truly lamentable. Supposing at an average, their families consist of four persons; a man, his wife, and two children; the daily quantity of rice required will be three seers, which is 90 srs. per mensem, while the produce of his labour does not exceed 2r. 8as. or 3 rupees.—There are many hundreds that do not earn so much. Admitting it to be 3 rupees, it will purchase him 63 seers of rice, of the coarsest quality, without leaving the means of adding a little salt, independent of any thing else to sweeten the homely meal.—From whence is the remaining requisite quantity to come?

He may perhaps for a short time obtain credit, when that resource fails, he seeks refuge in some other village, where the same scene is to be acted over again; and where every article is disposed of, by which he could realize a few annas; driven to despair, he has recourse to petty theft. Escaping detection in his first essay, he is soon initiated into the mysteries of his new profession, and becomes a daring robber; continuing his career, success renders him less cautious, when some act of atrocity places him in the power of the Police. He is now an inmate of the common Jail, associating with the most abandoned characters, until his feelings are rendered callous to every sense of shame.

Can we help reflecting, that this man might have continued a serviceable member of the community, had he not been driven to the commission of acts of moral turpitude, by the successful villainy of his

fellow man, who is exulting in the contemplation of accumulated wealth amassed by the sufferings of his fellow creatures.

That the scarcity is artificial, admits not of a doubt, for, allowing that the season has partially failed, the last two or three years were plentiful. What has become then of the produce? It is a well known fact, that the natives, unless compelled by necessity, will not eat new rice, it consequently must be concealed somewhere; and it is most earnestly to be hoped, that some plan may be speedily adopted to bring the delinquents to light, that they may meet that punishment which the depravity of their conduct so greatly merits.

**Chunar.**—One of our Correspondents at this Station writes, under date of the 8th of Nov. as follows:—The thermometer ranges from 68° to 78°. The crops are ripening rapidly; the harvest already commenced. Grain continues very high priced; gram selling from five to four rupees per maund; and at every place in the vicinity of Benares, it is nearly the same. The poor people complain already, but there is no remedy for the evil. Our Nerikh is regulated by that of the Holy City, the source of all monopoly, the centre of the monied interest; there, every boat-load of grain is purchased on its way from the lower provinces; and to that place is every consignment made from the upper Stations. The State Prisoner, Trimbutjee, arrived here yesterday, and took possession of his elevated abode; the splendour of which, I fancy, somewhat astonished him, and the attention which has been paid to his health and comfort, must impress him with an exalted idea of the generosity and humanity of the British Government.

**Secrets.**—A Letter from a Friend and Correspondent at this station, dated November 5, 1819, gives us the following account of a Farewell Entertainment given to Lieutenant Colonel Macmorine, by Captain Newton and the Officers and Staff of the 2d Battalion 10th Regiment Native Infantry, on the occasion of his quitting them to proceed to England. Our Correspondent says:—

I have often read with wonder and astonishment descriptions of public entertainments, wrought up in sublime language, exceeding, if possible, the power of imagination; I was however last evening pleasantly disappointed to find, that no language or description could do justice to the genuine hospitality, good fellowship, and affectionate attention and respect shown by a body of Officers to an Old Veteran Brother Officer, as evinced on that gratifying occasion.

The Officers of this distinguished Corps did not confine the respect due to their Old Veteran Lieutenant Colonel, by inviting the whole of the Civil and Military Service at the Station to be present, on so meritorious an occasion, but extended their cards of invitation to all within their call. The Banquet was held in a spacious house, occupied by Lieutenant Colonel Thompson, having a suite of handsome rooms magnificently furnished, the doors of which being thrown open, the two sets of tables proved as one.

At 9 o'clock precisely, the Ladies and Gentlemen sat down to a sumptuous dinner, consisting of every delicacy of the season. At half past 10, on the cloth being removed, Captain Newton rose, and after delivering an appropriate Speech, proposed the health of his worthy Colonel, which was happily received by the company, who drank the health of the Lieutenant Colonel with enthusiasm.

After the Ladies had retired to the Ball room, the following Toasts were drank with unbounded plaudits:

"The Ladies who have left us," three times three—*Air, Off she goes.*

"The King," in silence—*Air, God save the King.*

"The Prince Regent," three times three—*Air, Rule Britannia.*

"The Duke of York, Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Forces," three times three—*Air, Duke of York's March.*

"The Duke of Wellington (the Sepoy General) and the brave Armies who so often led to Victory," three times three—*Air, See the Conquering Hero comes.*

"The Marquis of Hastings, Governor General and Commander in Chief in India," nine times nine—*Air, Madra's Welcome to India.*

"Mr. Brooks, Governor General's Agent, and the Gentlemen of the Civil Service who have honored us with the pleasure of their company this evening," three times three—*Air, Money in both Pockets.*

By Mr. BROOKE:—"Captain Newton and Officers of the 2d Battalion 10th Regiment," three times three—*Air, March of the 10th Regiment.*

Captain Newton now rose to return thanks for the honor conferred on himself and his Brother Officers, and after requesting the Gentlemen to retire to the Ladies, opened the Ball with Lady Hamilton. The dancing commenced with great spirit and was kept up until 2 A. M. of the 3d instant, with a feeling only exceeded by the harmony and pleasing manners of the fair sex who honored the Entertainment with their presence.

At the conclusion of the Ball, the party sat down about 40 in number to a sumptuous supper, after which, excellent songs were afterwards sung, by the Gentlemen present, and at half past 3 o'clock the Ladies retired, highly delighted with the evening's entertainment, leaving a number of the jolly Sons of Bacchus to enjoy until day-break their copious libations to the Rosy God.

The impression left by this Entertainment has excited an strong and general a desire to re-enjoy the social pleasures it afforded, while they are

within our reach, that Cards of Invitation have already been issued for five successive Balls, so that the reign of gaiety has commenced under the happiest auspices, and the prospect before us beams brightly indeed.

**Bombay.**—The following articles are from the Bombay Papers last received, extending to the 28th of October, at which period their European News was not later than our own, so that we have drawn on them only for Asiatic intelligence.

**Bombay, October 23, 1819.**—On Monday last the Orient, Capt. Reynolds, from London the 18th June, arrived here. This ship touched at Madeira and the Mauritius, at the latter island she left the Sarah Capt. Norton, bound for this place, and expected to sail in 4 or 5 days after her.

At a meeting of several of the principal inhabitants of this Presidency at the Government House on Monday last, it was resolved that a deputation, consisting of the following gentlemen,—Sir C. Colville, Mr. Bell, Mr. Prendergast, Mr. Meriton, Gen. Baillie, Sir W. G. Keir, Col. Griffith, Archdeacon Barnes, Hon. Lieut. Col. Stanhope, Lieut. Col. Baker, Major Aitchison and Mr. Woodhouse,—should wait on the Right Hon. Sir E. Nepean, and communicate the wishes of his friends, that he would honor them with his company at a Public Dinner, which they were desirous of giving him on his approaching departure.

Sir C. Colville having consented to take the chair, the following gentlemen, we are informed, were nominated Stewards to assist him, and to manage the Entertainment.

**Stewards.**—Sir C. Colville, Mr. Bell, Mr. Prendergast, Mr. Meriton, Major Gen. Baillie, Sir W. G. Keir, Col. Griffith, Archdeacon Barnes, Lieut. Col. Stanhope, Mr. Michie Forbes, Mr. Newham, and Mr. Woodhouse.

**Committee to manage the Dinner, &c.**—Mr. DeVitre, Capt. Bellasis, Major Willis and Mr. Shotton.

The deputation waited on the Right Hon<sup>ble</sup> the Governor on the following morning. Sir Evan expressed his extreme gratification at this mark of attention towards him, and mentioned Monday the 28th as the day which would be most convenient to him. We are, however, desirous to state, that the day has been altered, and that the entertainment will be given on Thursday next the 28th instant at 6 o'clock, at Lowjee Castle; the liberal owner of that mansion, with his usual attention to the wishes of the community on similar occasions, giving up the use of it for that evening.

**Ball & Supper.**—We have rarely witnessed so brilliant an assemblage of beauty, grace and elegance at one time in this small place, as we did on Thursday evening at the Admiral's house, on the occasion of a Ball and Supper given by Captains Collier and Walpole to the settlement, and in honor of the day, the anniversary of the battle of Trafalgar. The principal ball room was brilliantly lighted up, and over the spacious terrace belonging to the house, a temporary awning had been thrown, and very considerable taste displayed in the arrangement of the variegated lamps which ornamented the place. Numerous supper tables, covered with a profusion of cold meats and all the delicacies which this island can furnish, were spread over this terrace. Soon after nine, the party being nearly all assembled, the dancing commenced, which was maintained with great glee and spirit until about 12, when the company sat down to supper. During the course of the supper, Mr. Warden, in a short neat speech, given in his happy manner, proposed the healths of Captains Collier and Walpole, which was drank with great enthusiasm and three times three.

After supper the dancing was resumed and kept up till an early hour yesterday morning.

**Muscat.**—Letters received here by a dhow from Muscat, mention, that about thirty five sail of Joasmees vessels have proceeded on a cruise off the coasts of Meckran and Scind, and that one of the chiefs of Ras-el Khyma who had been placed in authority at that port by the Wahabee Shaik, had repaired to Bushire to sue for peace. Whilst at that place, however, the Joasmees having taken a Bushire vessel, Mr. Bruce has detained the Shaik as a prisoner. The H. C. cruiser, Vestal, it is said, has left the Gulph with dispatches for Bombay, and may be daily expected. H. M. ship Eden was in the Gulph.

**Camp Gujrat, October 5, 1819.**—An extraordinary instance of infatuation occurred the other day in the town near which I am stationed, and which would have appeared incredible to me had I not been well acquainted with the circumstances.

It is customary for the Jaina Banias to fast during a period of eight days every year—this is called Poojusan, and commences Savan vud 12th. —A Bania of this town named Dosi Kusla Venn, of the division of the caste called Vchra, and of the Kurwa Miti sect, determined to fast about this period thirty days—he commenced on the 4th Savan Sood or the 26th July and his term expired on the 4th Bhadurwa Sood, or about the 25th August—he then took a small quantity of food daily, until the 9th (four days) but on that day he declared his determination to abstain entirely from sustenance during the remainder of his life. This kind of voluntary death is considered an excellent mode of expiating sin, and attaining eternal happiness among the Jainas—and it is most probable his mind was worked on, by the delightful visions of future bliss, and the transcendent merit of such a devotion, held out to him by the Yatis, and his friend who



perhaps wanted to get rid of him.—From this therefore he entirely relinquished nourishment until the 15th Asoo or the 3d October, when he died.—Thus having fasted, deducting the four days abovementioned, 66 days—during this time, all he allowed himself was a very small quantity of hot water daily.—As may be supposed, his form at his death was extremely emaciated, but his senses remained perfect to the last moment of his existence—being now a Saint, his body was followed to the pile by all the Banias in the town, and a great deal of pomp and ceremony customary on these occasions.

It is said, however that other motives besides devotion prompted this act, as a short time previous, from some domestic discontent, his wife had poisoned herself.

**Muscat.**—The following brief notice of Muscat has been transmitted from a visitor to that spot, and is inserted in the Bombay Gazette, from which we have taken it;—though it is singularly concise, and incomplete as to its extent, we can nevertheless vouch for its general accuracy as far as it goes.

The first appearance of Muscat, is the most romantic, that can be conceived; we had all formed some idea of it, but as far as I could learn none of our ideas were realized, I can safely say, that the view of it, had not the most remote likeness to that I had formed; a drawing, we happened to have on board, of the entrance to St. John's harbour, Newfoundland, is however not a bad representation of it; its aspect to seaward is one uninterrupted mass of black rock of different sizes and of a thousand fanciful shapes. The two Castles of Muscat, and a few straggling houses in every cleft, and a solitary date tree or two, are the only objects that diversify the scene; the town is not visible until you open the Cove, when it comes over the sight like a ruined town in the vicinity of the Castle of Otranto. We moored head and stern in the Cove, and found we made 14. 17' West from Bombay, which places the town of Muscat, in Longitude 58. 41. and found the Latitude 23. 38'. They use the Catamaran for fishing, also a float in the shape of a small canoe made of the banches of the date tree; the boats, that they sent for watering us were like those of the Chulias, at Nagore, and those you see at Prince of Wales Island, but our Long boat was occasionally used when the casks were filled, by the means of Mussocks, by the Imaum's slaves, no charge being made for it.

The town is mean and streets narrow, the house in which the Imaum now resides is said to have been a Portuguese Church; the streets are full of Battias from Scind and Kutch, and a blacksmith of the same tribe occupies a shop near the landing place, and from the demands made on him, you would suppose him to be the only one in the town; the houses have all terraces to which the natives retire in the evening, and many sleep there all night. The population of Muscat is stated to be about 50,000, a great many of whom are Indians, Banians from Kutch, and Scind, and Gohs from Mekran, who have a walled factory entirely to themselves at Muttra. These people who are Mahomedan Sectaries, are the chief dealers in shark fins, maws, and in oil and fire wood; there are said to be about 1000 families of them who reside chiefly at this place. Many of the rich men of Muscat are Indians, mostly Vantias, or Banians, and their influence is sometimes so great as to interdict the killing of oxen; they are chiefly Merchants, Brokers, Bankers, &c. The Arab and Mahomedan women all wear masks of black cloth ornamented with gold coin, chiefly Venetians and † Gubbas; few women are seen in the streets but on visiting the small hamlets which are built in every little valley, the women were familiar enough, though they never unmasked; in one of these hamlets, consisting of only one house, and about ten huts, we found about twenty ladies, immured, as it were, in this solitary place; they belonged to the lord of the valley, which altogether did not contain one acre of good ground, and none fit for grain; his property consisted in a plantation of date trees, some pomegranates, gourds, cucumbers, melons, and sweet limes, seven slaves, five cows, fifty goats, and a fishing boat; this Chief was the most independant fellow in the world, and said he had no master but God; he fed his women and dependants, on dates, fish, and milk, the produce of his own little valley, and appeared as happy as any man could be. We purchased his goats, which would enable him he said to new cloath his family and fix a few more venetians on the mask of his favorite. The poor fellow however, amongst all his riches, had bad eyes, and begged we would give him some ointment for them.

The goat mutton is here very good, sheep do not thrive; those we saw were of the African species with large tails; the bullocks are small, but the beef is good.

**Farewell Dinner to the Hon'ble Mountstuart Elphinstone.**—The testimonies of public and private worth cannot be too widely diffused, and we have great pleasure in giving publicity to the following account of an entertainment given on the evening of the 16th of Oct. 1819, by the Turf Club to their President, the Honorable Mountstuart Elphinstone.

\* We believe these are what is known to the English by the name of Sounds; those of the cod, are salted and sold in England under the name of cod's sounds. The Maws are dried and sent to Bombay for the China Market.

† The first is the Venetian Sequin; the Gubba, is also a gold coin of rather less value, and is the Sequin of some petty European states, in the Mediterranean, but of what particular one, is not very evident from the inscription.

The members of the Club, dressed in the Turf uniform, having assembled in the old palace at Poona, they waited to receive Mr. Elphinstone at the principal entrance, from whence he was conducted to the Gunness Mal, where the whole sat down at half past seven o'clock to a splendid dinner, and the party seemed determined to forget, for that evening at least, that they were so soon to lose their noble Patron.

The Chair was filled by Captain Tovey, who had also the honor to be supported by the gallant Major Staunton.

Upon the cloth being removed, the following Toasts were given.

"The King." "The Duke of Clarence & the Navy."  
"The Prince Regent." "The Marquis of Hastings and the Government in India."  
"The Duke of York and the Army."

The Chairman here observed, that he had unintentionally given the Marquis of Hastings before the Hon'ble Company, but he hoped it would be no disparagement to them to be drank after that illustrious Nobleman.

"The Honorable Company."

The Chairman having requested the attention of the company, then addressed them as follows:

Gentlemen.—I regret extremely, that it should have fallen to my lot to fill the chair this evening, as I am very incompetent to do it justice, but as I could not with honor decline my tour of duty, I hope you will be somewhat indulgent to me.

In proposing the health of our Noble President, you will naturally expect, that I should say a few words, but I shall merely allude to Mr. Elphinstone as President of the Turf Club. The object of the Club from its first institution has been to encourage conviviality and amusement. You well know how Mr. Elphinstone has accomplished this object, he has not only been the life and soul of all our amusements, but he has diffused a happiness into our society at Poona which has made us the envy of all our neighbours.—(loud applause.)

You must all have remarked, Gentlemen, that the bare mention of Mr. Elphinstone's name in company creates a degree of enthusiasm which can only arise from a deep sense of those inestimable qualities which have made him so universally respected and beloved.—(loud applause.)

I regret, Gentlemen, that I have no talent for making a speech, and what is still worse, I have no champagne to give you this evening. I shall therefore imitate the example of the distinguished hero opposite to me (Major Staunton) and place a deserving confidence in the valour of my troops. I shall rely, Gentlemen, on your enthusiasm to support me through the night, and more particularly in doing justice to the toast. I beg to propose, gentlemen, the health of Mr. Elphinstone, and may he long enjoy with increased prosperity that happiness which he has so widely diffused among us in the Deccan.—(loud cheering.)

"Mr. Elphinstone"—Three times Three.—Tune—Garb of Old Gaul.

The enthusiasm with which this toast was drank cannot be described; but it will be well for persons who have a strong susceptibility of the shocks of earthquakes to refer to their memorandum books under date the 16th October 1819, between the hours of 9 and 10 P. M.; indeed we shall not be surprised if the repeated cheers of the Sons of the Turf in the Hall of Gunness had startled the Peshwa in his retirement at Bittoor.

When the echoes of enthusiasm had died away, Mr. Elphinstone returned his acknowledgments to the Club in the following terms:

Gentlemen.—I beg to offer my best thanks for the honor you have done me in drinking my health. The compliment is particularly flattering from so respectable a society. The just praise of this club is, that while it makes every exertion to promote the amusements of the society, it has never encouraged any of the vices with which such amusements are sometimes attended. I have therefore particular pleasure in proposing

"The Turf Club,"

and may it continue to prosper and to diffuse an example of sociability and harmony to all around it.

This toast it is needless to say was received with thunders of applause

Tune.—Bachelors' Hall.

The Chairman then addressed the company; he said he intended to propose the health of a distinguished member of the Club, a gallant veteran equally ardent in beating the enemies of his country in the field, as in contending with his friends on the Turf. he had recently undertaken a long and fatiguing journey with the view of keeping up that esprit du corps,

"Colonel MacDowall, and may we long be able to hail him as the Father of the Turf."—Tune—The High Mettled Racer.

The gallant Colonel then rose, and made the following reply:

Mr. President and Gentlemen.—I am highly flattered by the handsome manner in which my health has been drank. I had long been anxious to visit the Western Coast, and a kind invitation from Mr. Elphinstone induced me to attend your first Turf Meeting. This not only gave me an opportunity of becoming acquainted with my sporting friends here, and at Bombay, but it has also introduced me to a society, I shall always respect and esteem. Gentlemen, the kind attention I have met with, at both stations, has gained to all the warm regards of my heart; but at the same time I acknowledge this, I must declare, that I shall do my best to beat the horses of my friends at both meetings.

This speech and challenge from the Father of the Turf was received with loud and repeated cheers.

The Chairman then rose and said, "Gentlemen, I am sorry to perceive that the Club is likely to lose some valuable members, and among others one who I am sure will be much regretted, his reputation as an Officer and for gentlemanlike qualities would make him an acquisition to any society and I beg to propose his health."

"Major Lushington, and may he long enjoy in health and happiness the reputation which he has so justly acquired."—Tune—*The Bold Dragoon*.

Major Lushington having allowed the plaudits to subside, made the following reply.

Gentlemen.—The very unexpected honor conferred upon me by our worthy President, and the very flattering manner in which you have drunk my health, demands much greater acknowledgements than I have it in my power to express to you. Among the many gratifying circumstances that have occurred to me, since I have been in the Deccan, I can assure you, the having been elected a Member of the Poona Turf-club is not among the least. Allusion has been made to my reputation as an Officer. Any little merit I possess, I feel to have been greatly overrated, but as whatever credit may be due to me, was principally gained in the Deccan, permit me to say the time I have passed here, has been the happiest and proudest of my life. (loud applause.)

The Chairman again begged the attention of the company. He said that among other members whom the Club were about to lose, there was one who was upon the eve of retiring to his native country; that altho his virtues were probably best known to a small circle of his intimate friends, he could assure the company that his name would be recollected at Poona when many who had run a more brilliant career were forgotten; that the person was Doctor Coats. There was not a village within 20 miles of Poona where the Doctor's name was not familiar from the recollection of his kindness and humane attentions in the exercise of his professional duties. The Chairman said he had no doubt that the company would cordially join him in drinking.

"Doctor Coats's health."

and wishing him all that happiness in his native country which he so richly deserved.

This tribute to the worthy Doctor was received with loud applause.

Tune.—*For a' that and a' that*.

Doctor Coats then rose and said, Gentlemen, I am quite overpowered by the honor you have conferred on me, and the flattering allusion made to my humble services. I have no doubt that my successor will be found equally zealous. I shall carry with me to my native country a grateful recollection of the happiness I have enjoyed in your society at Poona, and I hope, sincerely, Gentlemen, that you may long remain the envy of your neighbours.

The Chairman next proposed

"The Health of Major Sandwith."

In a short speech regretting his absence, from indisposition, and alluding to his intended journey to England with Doctor Coats.

"Major Sandwith"—Tune, *For England when with favoring gale*.

The Chairman then alluded to the circumstance of one of the members of the Club, having recently quitted his forlorn bachelor state, and proposed the health of

"Mr. and Mrs. Slight."—Tune—*Honey Moon*.

Mr. Slight having returned thanks, the Chairman said, that he had another toast to propose, one which always gave him great pleasure as it came home to the hearts of all men, and did not require a speech to set it off.

"The Ladies."—Tune—*Green grow the Rushes*.

Mr. Elphinstone then begged leave to propose another toast, and addressed the company in the following words:—

Gentlemen.—As we have drunk the health of some of the members whom we are about to lose, I beg leave to propose that of our honorary member, who is now to become an effective one. This is not a time to enlarge on the high public character of Mr. Chaplin, or on his other estimable qualities, but I congratulate the Club in the acquisition of him as a valuable member of society and a zealous promoter of the objects of the Club.

"Mr. Chaplin"—A March.

When the applause with which this toast was received had subsided, Mr. Chaplin rose and made the following reply:—

I could not, Gentlemen, have anticipated the honor which you have conferred upon me. If therefore the expression of my acknowledgements is inadequate, I trust to your indulgence to excuse me. The value of the compliment is the more particularly felt on account of its having proceeded from so high a quarter, and for the very flattering terms in which it has been conveyed. I consider it an enviable felicity to have been employed under a person so eminently distinguished by public and private notice as Mr. Elphinstone. This my good fortune led me to visit Poona, where you, Gentlemen, at the last meeting did me the honor to elect me an honorary member of the Club. I avail myself of this opportunity to thank you

sincerely for this favor, and to assure you, if any humble endeavours of mine can in any way contribute to promote the objects of your instruction, you may always command me.—(loud applause.)

The Chairman having now announced his intention of calling on one of the members for a song, Mr. Elphinstone begged first to be allowed to propose a toast, and said,

Gentlemen—I beg to give *The Health of Captain Tovey*, who now fills the Chair, with the same spirit and respectability, with which he fills every other situation in life.

Captain Tovey having returned thanks for the honor conferred on him, the company were then favored with an appropriate song composed for the occasion by Major Lushington, which was received with universal applause, as well as another of the same description by that gallant veteran, Major Bingham. Mr. Elphinstone afterwards proposed the health of the gallant vice chairman, *Major Stanton*, who returned thanks in a short and impressive speech which met with loud applause.

Mr. Elphinstone also gave the health of an absent honorary member of the club, *Mr. Cole*, a zealous promoter of the turf.

Tune, *Paddy o' Rafferty*.

Colonel McDowell then gave,

"Mr. Warden, the Father of the Bombay Turf."

but it is impossible to introduce the whole of the numerous toasts drunk upon this occasion, and we regret to say, that many valuable speeches have been lost from the members not being able to recollect them. We observed, however, with much satisfaction that the Chairman noticed the many obligations which the Club were under to Captain Robertson, the Collector of Poona, and that he also paid a handsome tribute to his old commander in the course of the evening. In proposing the health of Brigadier General Smith and the Poona Division of the Army, he said he could not refrain from observing, that his (Brigadier General Smith's) division was one of the most efficient in the field last war, and attended with the very unusual circumstance of its gallant Commander having been twice engaged during the campaign in personal combat with the enemy at the head of his troops. This toast was drunk with loud and repeated cheers.

Tune—*Grenadier's March*.

Mr. Elphinstone retired about midnight, highly gratified with the Entertainment, and the whole of the party broke up soon after; but when they awoke from their slumbers after such a night of bliss, it was hard to say whether they felt most the effects of their enthusiasm, or the consciousness, that they had bid an affectionate farewell to their noble President.

"When shall we meet his like again?"

*Calcutta Theatricals*.—Not having been present at the representation of the Comedy of "*Wild Oats*" on Friday, at the Chowringhee Theatre, we are not prepared to offer our readers any detailed account of the performance. We learn, however, that notwithstanding the choice made of a legitimate Comedy, the reputation of which is well known, the cast of which was excellent, and every thing promising an evening of refined and rational pleasure, the House was so thin, that its expenses for the night were not nearly paid by the receipts. The want of spirit in the audience to enter into the beauties of the Piece (for that it has a large share of them cannot be denied) was such also as to cast a damp on the exertions of the Amateurs, who need necessarily the encouragement of full and cheerful houses to make their labours either agreeable or successful.

We have not only heard, but have ourselves often urged complaints against the taste of the Managers in selecting for representation, Farces and trifling Pieces, to the exclusion of fine standard Tragedies and Comedies, with which our national Drama abounds. In the few instances in which these suggestions have been followed up, within our remembrance, such as by Shakespeare's *Merry Wives of Windsor*, *The Merchant of Venice*, *The Revenger*, and others Plays of equal celebrity, the Houses were we think, full and encouraging. In the present instance, however we regret to learn, that though the Managers and Amateurs counted on a cordial support, they were so disappointed, that if such empty Houses are repeated, it will necessarily drive the higher efforts of the Drama from the stage; and if Melo Dramas and Farces are the only Pieces that will draw crowded audiences, there is no alternative left, between selecting those for representation, or shutting up the Theatre altogether, an event which we hope there are few members of the community who would not strenuously exert themselves to avert.

*Dum Dum*.—We are glad to observe the revival of Theatrical Entertainments at this Cantonment, as we have no doubt they will be productive of as much pleasure as they were during the last cold Season. We understand, that the Theatre itself has been repaired, ornamented, and made much more comfortable than before, as well as that there has been some additional strength given to the *Corps Dramatique*, which promises novelty as well as force.

To all those who remember the pleasures of the last Theatrical Season at Dum Dum, we need offer no inducements to share in their participation now; but to those who have never yet ventured to extend their evening drive so far, we can safely promise a degree of entertainment that will fully compensate them for their attendance.



## Egyptian Scarabeus.

The fact communicated in the following short Letter to the Editor of the Asiatic Mirror, from which Paper it is taken, is sufficiently curious and interesting to induce us to add it to our columns, as we conceive that every thing which has a tendency to elucidate the connection that existed between the mythology and religion of India and Egypt, highly deserving the attention of the Philosopher as well as the Antiquary. The following is the Letter and its preceding paragraph from the Mirror.

"Whatever contributes to enlarge our knowledge of the works of nature, and to facilitate the application of this knowledge to the development of the seemingly mysterious customs and ceremonies of remote antiquity, cannot fail of proving a subject of the most lively interest both to the naturalist and to the philosopher. The following extract from a letter dated October 28, which we have just received from a learned Correspondent in Oude, appears to us, on this account, peculiarly valuable; and we shall ever consider such communications as the fairest ornaments of our weekly publication.

"My dear Sir—I have no news to give you, excepting a natural historical curiosity that has lately been discovered in the province of Oude. It is a species of large Beetle or Scarabeus, which differs materially from the ordinary kinds, and having two horns exactly resembling those of a Bull, in front of the head—in other respects it is formed similar to the Rhinoceros Beetle, or insect with one horn. The reason of the Egyptians having rendered the Scarabeus an object of adoration has never, I believe, received satisfactory explanation. Yet the discovery of this animal may throw some light upon the subject. A Bull's head, or circle surmounted by a crescent—thus &—that is the two celestial luminaries united—formed in Egypt, as at present in India—an object of high veneration, from being a resemblance of the sun and moon, and more particularly restricted to symbolize the solar deity. But this is the appearance of the head of the insect which has been accidentally discovered in Oude. As it seems to be non-descript, I shall take the liberty to denominate the animal Scarabeus Bucephalus. It is preserved in spirits, and will shortly be transmitted to the Asiatic Society."

If our time would admit, we might add largely to this subject, from researches in Egypt; but we may here briefly state, that in the older and larger Temples of Thebes, Apollinopolis Magna, and Hermopolis, the Scarabeus is seen frequently;—the figure of the globe and crescent is perpetual in almost all the ancient edifices;—and the most beautiful figures of Isis are seen at Tentyris, with this emblem on her head as a crown.

Above the cataracts of the Nile, however, in Nubia, the Scarabeus seemed to have attained a still higher rank as a mythological emblem, for it is there seen occupying the place of the winged globe, so conspicuous over the osirides and arachnides of the principal entrances to Egyptian Temples; and it is in Nubia only, that we remember to have seen this insect invested with broadly expanded wings, like those that characterize the globe before spoken of.

In the Egyptian mythology, the winged globe, and the serpent that encircled it with its tail in its mouth, were deemed emblematic of eternity; and the Scarabeus, as by some authors held, typical of the return of the body to life after the period of 3000 years, during which they kept them secretly embalmed.

Any one having sufficient leisure to pursue this interesting subject might find abundant materials on the Egyptian part of the question; but that on the Indian is we believe perfectly untouched. This fact communicated to the Editor of Mirror is to us perfectly new; and we trust that the observant Correspondent of that Paper, will not suffer the interesting question of the connection which this and a thousand other resembling features seem to indicate between India and Egypt in their early history, to be lost sight of.

## Tea Plant.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

Sir, I observe in your Journal of Sunday, that the Quarterly Reviewers express their surprise, that Mr. Abel should have thought the Cape of Good Hope a climate well fitted to the Tea Plant. He had just before remarked, that the Plant would undoubtedly grow and thrive wherever the myrtle did. Now the myrtle thrives most luxuriantly in the open air at the Cape. Every body who has been at Constantia, must recollect the thick myrtle hedge which encloses the garden, growing without any trouble, as strong and luxuriant as *Mehndee* does in India. This fact was probably the ground of Mr. Abel's speculation, which the Reviewer dismisses as ridiculous because the price of labour is high in Cape Town. From this he jumps to the sweeping conclusion, that "we shall never be able to obtain Tea from any of our own dependencies, nor cease to be indebted to China for an article that enters so essentially into the comforts of all classes of our countrymen." A plain man might doubt whether the

Hottentots and Ninnagans, whom the worthy Moravian Missionaries have collected into villages, earn "from two to three dollars a day." And even if day labourers are so well paid all over that colony, he may not perceive how this high rate of wages at the Cape proves that we shall never obtain Tea from any of our own dependencies.

Some of your readers may be able to inform the Public whether it is not possible, that our Indian possessions may yet supply it to the Mother-country, and whether any experiments have been made in India to know on what soils and in what climate it will best thrive. This empire now includes every variety of soil from the rocky mountains of the north, and the *Kunker* of the Doab, to the rich black mould of Bundelcund, and the alluvial earth of Bengal. The damp moist climate of the lower provinces, the parching dryness of Agra and Muttra, the mild temperature of the Bhoon, and the cold regions of the Himalaya, are all under our sway. The Ganges and her tributary streams afford the easy means of floating down to the sea, the productions of the remotest provinces. It seems probable, that a congenial tract of country might be found for the Tea Plant, which must be a hardy shrub, for the Embassy within this large scope found it thriving every where from Canton to Peking, that is from 23° to 40° degrees of latitude. There is no difficulty in India from the high price of labour; here men earn two or three annas a day, in place of two or three dollars.\*

The advantages which would arise to this country from the cultivation of Tea in great abundance, and the benefit to England in thus obtaining from her own colonies what she now can only procure from China, need not be enumerated. The material questions however remain, 1. whether it is probable that it would succeed, and 2. whether it has ever been tried. These I hope may be answered by some of your intelligent Readers.

I am, Sir, Your obedient servant,

Calcutta, Nov. 15, 1819.

PHYLO-HYSON.

## Excursions in Africa.

### FROM GEORGE'S DROSDY TO ZWELLENDAAM.

June 13.—It was with regret, I this morning took leave of Mr. Vankwael. I shall ever remember with pleasure the days I spent with him at George's Droedy. We galloped over the Downs, the same road we had come, and after passing Bittas, came up with two ladies on horseback; they were sitting astride on the animals, with their petticoats fastened just below the knee with a string which they untied when they wished to dismount. We crossed the Grote and Kleine Branche rivers together, when they managed to bend their legs on the back of the horse much better than I could, I now bid adieu to my fair companion. They continued the road I had come by Myers &c. but I turned off to the left to Mossel Bay. After resting about 20 minutes we ascended a high hill, on other side of it we crossed Hartbeest river. We now left the sea in view, passed Daniel Murray Zartzen at Klein Mossel Bay, and two miles further arrived at Grote Mossel Bay and was received by Hans Aabue, in Danish pronounced Abbe, in Dutch Arber, but as there were no stables for the horses I sent Gaspar back with them to Zartzen. Distance from George's Droedy 25 miles.

Aabue informed me, that the Bay was formerly called "Content," but the Dutch changed it to Mossel, or muscle, from the quantity of muscle or oyster on the shores; that in 1752 a stone (still here) with the Dutch Company's Arms on it, was erected; and in 1765 in the Government of Vin du Graave, a large store house 150 feet long, and 20 broad, was erected for the purpose of receiving grain from the neighbouring farms, which was then shipped off in sloops to the Cape, but as Government now, from the expense of shipping, can only allow 4 Dollars per sack of 170 lbs. for wheat, and 2 Dollars per ditto for oats, the traffic has ceased. Mossel Bay is open to the S. S. E. wind. Ships of the largest size can come to anchor, and the ships or rather sloops could anchor so close to the shore, that Aabue declares he used to summon them to dinner by calling out that it was on table. The projecting land from George's Droedy forms the Bay to the East, and to the west is a high cliff to which I went.

14th. Considerably above the beach is a kind of grotto in this cliff, from which you have a commanding view of the sea; but I was much disappointed; for from what I had heard I expected to have found stalactites similar to those near Mrs. T's estate as before mentioned. On my way back by the shore I picked up several shells, then bathed among the rocks; the water was very cold. At 12 we dined, and afterwards I went with a boy to endeavour to find some oysters. Aabue told me they were only to be procured at the change of the moon, however, to my great delight after wading among the rocks I discovered numberless oysters sticking to them. We knocked them off with iron bars, and many consequently were broken. These I ate and they were delicious; we brought home a large basket full. The houses are built in the west side of the Bay, immediately behind them are hills, from which several streams of fresh water descend, and so close to the beach that boats can easily water. We went off to some of the fountains where water cresses, mint, and peppermint, were growing in abundance, sown many years ago, by Aabue for the convenience of the ships.

\* In one Dollar there are thirty-two annas.

There were no fruit trees, as the streams have always washed away those he planted, but he has plenty of vegetables in the summer.

Aabue has been here since the year 1788, he was born in Denmark in 1740; his father was a schoolmaster. At 17 he was sent to the Academy at Copenhagen and studied Theology, Philosophy and Medicine for 7 years; he then went to Versailles, afterwards to Upsal in Sweden, then returned to Copenhagen, when he became intimate with that celebrated Minister Shuenza, and was made his private Secretary and Translator. On Shuenza's being beheaded in 1763, Aabue with many others fled; he went over to Holland, entered the service of the Dutch East India Company as a private soldier, and arrived at the Cape in 1775. In ten years he rose to the rank of Lieutenant, and in 1785 was appointed Resident at Mossel Bay, and has been here ever since, and what is more extraordinary, he for thirty years has been a solitary recluse, without once making an attempt to induce a female to become his wife. He is now in his 76th year, but appears considerably younger, and has no infirmities.

16th. At 8 A.M. I took leave of this extraordinary old man. On gaining the summit of the hill, we galloped along, and in half an hour reached a farm house belonging to Mr. Alexander, the Secretary to Government, a dreary miserable looking place, but the country round afforded fine pasture; an Englishman, by name Hannibal, was in charge of it. We proceeded on over the Downs, the sky beautifully clear, not a cloud to be discerned, when suddenly to my great astonishment a sharp shower of rain came on, and was over again before I could take my great coat out of the portmanteau. At 10 A.M. we arrived at Stink River, where Mr. Myers has a farm, and at 12 after a fatiguing ride arrived at Eneas Myers's on the Sabina river. The farmer was just setting off with the post-hag, but his wife begging me to alight gave me some bread and a bowl of milk, and we unsaddled the horses and allowed them to roll for an hour; we then crossed the river, and following the same road as we had passed in coming, arrived in two hours at Tyger Fountain, distance about 30 miles from Mossel Bay. Old Cornelius Snyman, his frow and family were delighted to see me, they concluded I had passed by another road. Their reception was most gratifying and the evening passed very pleasantly.

17th.—The family took an affectionate leave of me, and begged me not to forget them, and to send all my friends to their cottage, who for my sake should be well entertained. At 8 A.M. we proceeded, and in two hours arrived at Le Grancies, Hoogh Krawi river; the master was out, and the female received me kindly. I dined with them at 12. The house is a very pretty building, but situated in a hollow, and commands no view. The cold this morning was very great, and I, for the first time, saw a hoar frost on the ground. At half past 12 we again went on, and by a better road than that we had passed when coming. I arrived in two hours at Jacobus du Pree's; he was glad to get back to his house, and I was glad to get rid of him. The charge was 27 Rix Dollars, for the number of days I had kept him.

18th.—Early this morning, I crossed the Zaf river, and then mounted Du Pree's small horse which I was to take to his father's. I had hitherto used him merely to carry the luggage. In three hours slow riding we arrived at Peter Du Pree's Krombulk river, and was received kindly, by the good old couple.

19th.—The morning hymn chaunted by the old couple awoke me just as it was light. I got up and joined them at their coffee. The two young Misses Du Pree's also came, both very elegant young women. At all the farm houses, I have observed this custom of rising with the daylight. They make a hearty meal at 11. Drink this water (tea) at 2, drink copies during the evening, and go to bed immediately after supper.

I quitted the house early and a heavy fog continued until 9 o'clock. We now turned to the right, (bearing on the left the road we had passed) in coming towards the mountain called the Great Father's Bosch (Grand Father's wood) and in three hours reached the houses which in sight of each other skirt along the mountain. We stopped at the Estate of Mynheer Von Aib, who though it was 11 o'clock, had nothing ready to eat, as he dined at 3 o'clock, the first Boor I have met with, who does so; he was very polite and gave us all he had. After resting an hour we proceeded along the vale, which greatly resembles the large Kloof. We soon arrived amongst Hottentot cottages and kraals, and all around indicated the vicinity of a Missionary, and one I was told resided at the neat looking house, at the head of the village. I regretted I could not stop until he returned from the field, where he was gone as I passed it, and where it appeared the men had accompanied him, as the crowd we were surrounded by, consisted of women and children only; they saluted me and were questioning Gaapar, who on a sudden gave a tremendous yell, and throwing himself off his horse, was instantly in the arms of one of the ladies. After kissing her, he jumped and capered about and insisted on kissing all around. Then observing his horse which he had left loose, trotting off, he caught it, and apologizing to me said the lady was his brother's wife. I not only forgave him, but begged the lady to come with her husband to Zwelendaw, where I intended stopping a day or two. We now crossed the Grote Taken mountain by a wretched bad road, which obliged us to dismount and walk a considerable distance.

We soon arrived at the Buffelgat river, and crossed it nearer to the mountain than we had done coming. The Apple Krawi river we next rode through, and in half an hour afterwards reached Zwelendaw, making 7 hours from Du Pree's and full 35 miles. This is certainly

ly the longest and worst but a more picturesque road to the traveller who is not in haste than the direct road I at first came.

The Landrost, M. Buissinnee, being again from home, I went to the Field Cornet's Peter Toates, who holding my stirrup to alight, said, "How do you do Mynheer, will you take a glass of beer," and every word he said was accompanied by rhyme. He is a facetious fellow, and the droll of the village. His wife took a fancy to my horse Hottentot, and her husband to gratify her wish offered me a horse in exchange, this to oblige the Lady I consented to; and afterwards heartily repented of my civility, for the animal had the fault of the generality of the Cape Horses, that of tumbling down without any apparent cause. After I had thus risked my neck several times, I gave him up, and lost 500 Rix Dollars by over politeness.

The Landrost of Zwelendaw, as is the case at the other Drosdies, is Magistrate and Collector. He is assisted in his duties by the Hemranda, who are a certain number of the farmers, in the Division chosen annually to advise with the Landrost in the measures to be pursued, the taxes &c. to be assessed, but received no pay for their trouble, a Secretary and a few clerks complete the Civil Establishment, their Libraries are very small. The Landrost does not get more than 3500 ruppees per year. The Secretary also holds the situation of Vendue master, (auctioneer) and on all sales 5 per cent is deducted, 3 of which are the right of Government, and 2 of the Vendue master, who has also the farther advantage of not being called on for the proceeds of the sale for 8 or 9 months, whereas all purchase must be paid for to him in three; so that although the Secretary's salary is but a 1000 rix dollars a year, the allowances make it nearly as good as the Landrost's. The land revenue is for the most part accounted for in Cape Town at the Receiver General's office, but all taxes, such as head money, Church dues &c. are paid at the Landrost's treasury; and this sum defrays all district expenses. The balance remitted annually to the Cape from Zwelendaw is but very trifling.

20th.—This day I purchased for 120 dollars, a young Quasha, an animal resembling the Ass, and streaked on the neck like the Zebra, and slightly so on the body; but the marks are not so beautiful as those of the Zebra. They told me the Quasha would quietly run by the side of my led horse, and I was most anxious to bring him to India, but when the trial was made he evinced his affinity to the ass by an obstinacy, which neither kindness or beating could overcome, and I was obliged to give him back to the owner. At dinner time, Belton from the Gaow was produced. It had a fine game flavour, and was particularly good.

## Review of Past Discussions.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

Sir,

I have lately read with considerable interest, the Discussions which have appeared in your Journal, regarding Brevet Rank, and as I see the phalanx of THE OLD SCHOOL advancing in considerable numbers, and with some additional strength against THE SOLDIER OF FORTUNE, I trust, I shall be excused as a Veteran, who dth myself a Soldier of Fortune, for stepping forward to lend my humble aid to the virtuous in distress.

The Soldier of Fortune stands forth to show, that honorary reward, in the shape of additional rank, with its concomitants of military command, and respectability, which lead to independence and profit, would be more grateful reward to the Officer who has distinguished himself, and would be a greater excitement to Officers to throw themselves into the way of distinction by seeking the field, than any other mode which could be adopted to remunerate gallant actions.

The Soldier of the Old School maintains, (if I understand him) that any innovation on the present system of rise by rotation, and seniority is to be dreaded as an encroachment on the customs of the "Good Old School;" that pecuniary rewards, such as £600 and a Sword to an Officer commanding a battalion, for eminent services, by the Court of Directors, or a Paymastership by Government, to a Brevet Captain (for Lieutenants I believe are not eligible to the situation,) are better calculated to please the Army at large, than if Officers under such circumstances were promoted to superior rank, as is the case in every other Army in the world.

Against this innovation, an argument has lately been adduced, that it is owing to the rise by seniority, principally, that our Indian Army has attained its present distinction. We are told by the admirers of the Old School, that Brevet Rank would open such a door to patronage, that we should see ourselves superseded by every Aid-de-Camp who carried the dispatches of his General, and that any Governor General who had friends to serve, would run them up the list of Captains and Majors, till they were elevated into Lieutenant Colonels, without any other pretensions than that of being able to give them a vote or two at an election in England. I am happy however to observe, that in this fair and gentlemanly discussion, the Friend to the Army has made the *amende honorable*; as far as he could to the illustrious dead, in denying his intention of personality towards the late Lord Minto; it was quite unnecessary for his argument, and was not consistent with the liberality that belongs to his profession, and of which in his atonement he has proved himself so capable.



But again to the point. The Soldier of Fortune, very early in the discussion, proved, that casual supersession, where no merit whatever was the cause, is an inherent part of the Constitution of our Indian Army; he brought forward a long list of names in the Bengal Army, which might be doubled and quadrupled if it had been necessary, and the same number might be adduced on the Sister Establishments. Has jealousy throughout the Army been the result of these accidental promotions? Has it not been confined to the individuals, in whose rank the supersession has taken place? I shall not answer these questions, but leave them to the candor of the Friend of the Army. If this jealousy has not existed throughout the Army, but only among those who have been superseded, how much less is this feeling likely to operate on generous minds, when the impression becomes the honorable reward of distinguished merit.

But a question of this kind affects the whole Indian Army collectively, and I should like to see advocates on both sides of it, if such there be, step forth from the Armies of the other Presidencies. It is chiefly in hopes that some of these more competent to the task than myself may come forward, that I have taken up the pen. In the Madras Army, the casual supersessions in Regimental Rank, I think, have rather done good than harm. Many of the most distinguished Officers in our Army, are of this class. I need hardly mention the names of Lieutenant Colonel Hopetoun Scott, C. B. Lieutenant Colonel Robert Scott, C. B. Lieutenant Colonel James Russell, C. B. Lieutenant Colonel John Doretton, distinguished for his gallant charge with Brigadier General Fritzier's Division, Lieutenant Colonel Newall, C. B. Lieutenant Colonel H. Smith, C. B. and some others. These Officers all superseded several of their own standing; I recollect them each objects of rancorous jealousy in their time, on account of their accidental promotion; but not on account of their fame, or on account of the honors they have received from their Sovereign; these have obliterated the former feeling, in all generous minds, and they have now become objects of additional esteem and veneration.

In this list I have purposely omitted the name of one who has always been distinguished from the moment his character was known, and he had attained rank to be noticed; need I mention the gallant Major Noble, C. B. commanding the Madras Horse Artillery. He is not one of those who have rose rapidly to rank; but as a young Captain he got the command of the Horse Artillery, thirteen years ago. The excellence of this Corps has made its services sought on all occasions of hard duty, and he has been kept in command of it from the time it was a troop till it has been augmented to its present strength, to the exclusion of all the older Officers of his corps. I have never heard this complained of, though it might well have been, but Major Noble gallantly maintained his post against interest and rank, by the intrinsic weight of his character and his enterprise.

There are many other Officers who would have been at this moment Colonels and General Officers, from their intrinsic merit, had Brevet Promotion been as common to our Army as to the rest of the Armies of Europe. Captain James Grant, who has been unfortunate in his promotion, was glad to get the temporary command of the Mysore Horse in the late war. His distinguished gallantry, in leading a handful of heroes (the Madras Body Guard) in 1801, against a formidable phalanx of Pikemen at Pandarumkoochy, in which himself, and all his commissioned and non-commissioned Officers, with most of his troop were either killed or severely wounded, would in any other part of the world have ensured to him rapid promotion. The fetters of the Old School kept him a Captain after a service of nearly thirty years, and instead of now commanding a Brigade, or a Division, he has accepted the charge of an Infantry Brigade in the service of one of the Native Princes.

This bugbear Brevet Promotion, which seems to alarm the Friends of the Old School, is really not so much to be dreaded, after all. Does it signify to me whether I am superseded by the effects of a sickly season, and an unhealthy station, or by the effect of the particular gallantry of an individual, (perhaps my friend) who has come by his reward only after having added lustre to the community of which I am a member? In the one case, I have no consolation, in the other I have a great one, and an additional motive for exertion is called forth in me, to gain a similar reward. If, however, I were to prefer my cool wine, cool house, cool tattles, and all my comforts, to the exercise of my profession, I should certainly never have an opportunity of distinguishing myself, and should richly deserve the supersession which I have not sufficient generosity to brook without jealousy in another.

I could mention an instance of two Officers, who came out within five months of each other, the one has just got his Majority, and the other has just stepped into his Lieutenantcy. They have both been fifteen years in the Army, and altho' the Major is an excellent Squadron Officer, yet the Lieutenant happens to be equally good with him. What advantage has the Old School, even in its most favorable light, been to the unhappy Lieutenant? We have lately had here some Lieutenants and Brevet Captains of 17 years standing, who are fit to command Brigades, and who might now perhaps have been old Captains and Majors if they had been promoted on the occasions on which they have distinguished themselves.

It is maintained, that the patronage arising out of this Brevet Promotion would be liable to abuse. Absolute power is always liable to abuse. In India however, perhaps, it is less so than in any other country in the world; and one of our first statesmen (Marquis Wellesley) has been known to say, that the servants of the Company are superior, whether

we look to their ability, their zeal, or their integrity, to those of any State in Europe. It matters not whether this be strictly the case, as is sufficiently honorable testimony to make us all proud of it. Had patronage been much abused (for appointments, whether Political, Civil, or Military, all emanate from patronage) this could not have been the case. The truth is, that as long as business in India requires to be conducted with the natives who speak a foreign language to our own, a knowledge of that language, and an intimate acquaintance with the manners and customs of the people, is necessary for the transaction of the several duties of the Political, Civil, and Military Departments. Thus, none but persons who have been some years in the service can fulfil the duties of such appointments, and I believe our Honorable Masters take care to allow of none which are not absolutely necessary. We have no sinecures in India.

Although I have endeavoured to shew why patronage has not hitherto been much abused in this country, I speak of course by comparison, and I may adduce England, France, and all the states of Europe as instances of a different state of things. I am by no means prepared to say, that such might not take place in the case of Brevet Promotion in the Army, were it to be unlimited in its action. Very able Officers; however, have rose from the rank of Aid-de-camp. The Duke of Wellington held that situation under the Duke of Rutland, in Ireland, he also rose rapidly in the Army, and had he not done so, he would not now have been Duke of Wellington, nor England's glory perhaps have been so pre-eminent. Other Aid-de-camps of the same Lord Lieutenant were also rapidly pushed on in the Army, but they were not equally fitted to sustain the sun-shine, and have remained in the shade. The promotion by purchase in His Majesty's service is said to bring into the Army many a young man of family, but it also brings in many a young man of no family at all; I should be very sorry to see promotion by purchase, introduced into the Company's service, because the Indian Army, to be effective, must be composed of Cofidels or Apprentices; every Officer must serve his time to understand his business, and the moment this is done, away with the character of our service will fall; this is the strength of our reputation.

The Artillery and Engineer corps in England, are modelled on this plan, but they are not fettered down from promotion when they distinguish themselves. Colonel William Pauley, ardent from his youth upwards, full of science and literary attainment, and steady in the pursuit of his profession, was at different times Aid-de-camp, to Sir John Stewart at Malda, to Sir D. Baird, and subsequently to Sir John Moore at Corunna; he was the defender of a Fortress on the Neapolitan shore, the Chief Engineer I believe at Walcheren, where he was severely wounded by a musket shot and a bayonet in the trenches, and thence he returned to England. From the rank of Captain of Engineers he was promoted by Brevet to Lieutenant Colonel, and has been placed at the head of an Institution to which he does an honor, and which he fills with credit to himself, and essential benefit to his country. If I am not mistaken, Sir Robert Fletcher, the Chief Engineer with the Duke of Wellington in Spain, was also promoted by Brevet; and it is to this rank in His Majesty's Army, notwithstanding the abuse of patronage, we are indebted for some of the first Captains of the age. That many an individual has attained high Military rank, who has not realized the hopes of his Patron is certain; we need not mention the names of some within our own recollection, who have served in India, in Spain, and in South America.

Brevet Promotion in the Indian Army, to be beneficial, should have its limits, and there would be little fear of the worthless Aid-de-camp stepping over the head of our FRIEND TO THE ARMY, or his supporters. Suppose for instance, that this Brevet were authorized by the Crown, and by the Directors, for it is evident it must receive the sanction of both to become general. Let it be issued in, by a Regulation of the Service, that no Officer should be promoted by Brevet, but for distinguished gallantry in the field, and that of a nature to be reported in a very particular manner by the Officer commanding the Detachment: that the recommendation for such Brevet promotion should be subject to the approval of the Superior Authorities in Europe; and that no Brevet should take place unless it came through the regular channel at the time, when every circumstance was fresh in the memory, otherwise it is not unlikely, that Officers might go home and secure their Brevet Promotion through the channels of interest, unconnected with their conduct.

I would by no means wish to see this advancement common, or made light of, and given to every Officer who has seen a little service accidentally, but has not happened to have personally signalized himself; it should be for prominent acts of valour like those of Lieutenant Colonel Ludlow, C. B. and H. Scott, C. B. of Majors Staunton and Grant, of Captains Caulfield, Fitzgerald, Lloyd, at Nagpoor, and Swanston at Corygaum; of Lieutenant Thackeray, and Ensign Latter. These are instances of individual heroism which merit something more than the ordinary praise bestowed on bodies of Officers and men who have fought gallantly and won; they do not occur every day, nor is every Officer deserving of the rich meed.

These names ought, with that of Flint, the intrepid Defender of Wandiwash under Sir Eyre Coote, to be handed down to posterity; but when the individuals die without rank, the casual glory of a day is forgotten, and they have no further opportunity of evincing what they yet may be, as Generals. They will always distinguish themselves, however, whenever they are tried. Of the gallant Flint, it is not perhaps known generally, that he was promoted by Sir Eyre Coote, to a Company, for his

conduct, and this single instance of Brevet Promotion was hailed with applause at the time by the whole Army. Could it be otherwise in such an Army?

It is time for me to close my remarks on this subject. I am individually likely to suffer from Brevet Promotion; my standing in the Service, and the station I now hold, are not likely to lead to that kind of Military distinction which should entitle me to Brevet, while as an Old Captain going on Nineteen Years in my Regiment, I cannot be personally interested in the decision, whatever it may be, of our Superiors; but I devoutly wish to see an union of the three Establishments to which Military Promotion should be held out as the legitimate reward of distinguished gallantry in the field. By this we shall have all our Officers desirous of getting into action, and joining their Regiments; or the Army, when it is called forth, instead of sliding into obscurity into a Paymastership, or Commissary of Bread, Meat, and Arrack, or lounging at the Presidency in the train of some Old General or Fair Lady, as Aid-de-camp, when the British trumpet sounds 'To Arms!'

Seindah's Camp, Oct. 15, 1819.

A MADRAS OFFICER.

## Government Orders.

### GENERAL ORDERS, BY THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF.

Head-Quarters, Calcutta, 8th November, 1819.

Sergeant Major Alexander Butters, of the 1st Battalion 13th Regiment, is appointed Barrack Sergeant at Secrolo, (Benares, vice Connor, whose time of service is expired.

Bombardier Thomas Barlin of Artillery, is appointed Quarter Master Sergeant to the 2nd Battalion 4th Regiment Native Infantry, vice Brierly, appointed Sergeant Major.

The leave of absence to visit the Presidency granted to Surgeon Law, in General Orders of the 10th September, and to Captain Oliver, of the 2nd Battalion 6th Regiment, in General Orders of the 1st October last, is cancelled at their own request.

(Signed) JAS. NICOL, Adj. Gen. of the Army.

## BOMBAY.

General Orders, by the Right Honble the Governor in Council, Bombay Castle, 16th October, 1819.

The Right Honorable the Governor in Council is pleased to confirm the Detachment Order issued by Colonel Huskisson, commanding in Candesh, under date the 11th ultimo, establishing a Lock Hospital with the Force under his Command; and to direct that the Establishment be in conformity to the General Order of Government of the 10th of February, 1813.

J. PARISH, Sec. to Govt.

## Commercial Reports.

Delivery of East India Produce from the Honorable Company's Warehouse in London, in the month of June, 1819.

Bengal and Surat Cotton Wool,	3508	bales
Coffee,	8420	bags
Sugar,	4640	bags
Indigo,	1200	chests
Saltpetre,	390	tons
Black Pepper,	1250	bags
White Pepper,	100	bags
Cassia Lignum,	200	chests
Cassia Buds,	20	chests
Ginger,	915	bags
Sago,	410	bags
Rice,	12846	bags

Remaining in the Company's Warehouse on the 1st of July, 1819.

Bengal and Surat Cotton Wool,	171765	bales
Bengal Cotton Yarn,	40	bales
Coffee,	21580	bags
Sugar,	31540	bags
Indigo,	19400	chests
Saltpetre,	7480	tons
Black Pepper,	35700	bags
White Pepper,	2315	bags
Cassia Lignum,	6300	chests
Cassia Buds,	103	chests
Ginger,	31110	bags
Sago,	14360	bags
Rice,	120180	bags

## Domestic Occurrences.

### MARRIAGES.

On the 15th instant, at the Cathedral, George Swinton, Esq. Secretary to Government Persian Department, to Miss Anne Elizabeth Swinton, Daughter of Samuel Swinton, Esq. a Member of the Board of Customs, Salt and Opium.

At Allahabad, on the 1st instant, Lieutenant James Burney, H. M.'s 87th Regiment, to Miss Letitia Dickson, third daughter of William Dickson, Esq. of Highbury Hill—Middlesex.

### BIRTHS.

On the 13th instant, Mrs. John Higginson, of a Son.

At Chinsurah, on the 12th instant, Mrs. Mary Barber, of a Daughter.

On the 15th instant, Mrs. Fabian, Wife of Mr. Fabian, of the Honorable Company's Calcutta Marine, of a Daughter.

At Chinsurah, on the 15th of October, the Lady of Charles Harris, Esq. first Judge of the Provincial Court, of a Son.

### DEATHS.

On the 15th instant, Lieutenant Peter W. Campbell, of the Honorable Company's Military Service, aged 24 years.

On the 15th instant, deeply regretted by all who knew him, Captain Rodk; MacQueen, H. M.'s 78th Foot, aged 40, who united the most noble qualities of heart to the strictest integrity of character, and to distinguished professional worth.

At the house of H. C. Broseger, Esq. Hoogley, on the 14th instant, Mr. Jas. Haseldine, aged 20, lately from Liverpool. A young man, whose gravity of manner, and gentle disposition, endeared him to all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance, and by whom his untimely loss is most sincerely regretted.

On the 16th instant, Captain George Woodward, of the ship Bengal, aged 40.

On the 16th instant, Mr. J. Chapman, School Master, aged 80 years.

At the Presidency, on Thursday, the 11th current, after a few hours illness, at the age of 40 years, John Mitford Rees, Esq. of the Honorable Company's civil service, and second Judge of the Provincial Courts of Appeal and Circuit for the Division of Calcutta. Possessed of a frank, generous and manly disposition, the urbanity of his manners endeared him to a numerous circle of relatives and friends; whilst the character he bore through a long course of service, was most affectingly evinced in the great assemblage of respectable Natives, who attended to pay the last and tribute to departed worth.

At Bombay, on the 22nd of October, Cornet H. M. Buchanan, Madras Est.

At Bombay, on the 20th of October, Lieut. Hunter, H. M.'s 67th Regiment.

## Shipping Intelligence.

### CALCUTTA ARRIVALS.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	From Whence	Left
Nov. 13	Samdanny	British	Aubobuccar	Canton	Sept. 13
14	Princess Charlotte	British	W. Vaughan	London	July 19
14	Anne	British	R. Dickie	Bombay	Oct. 17
15	Medway	British	R. Wright	London	July 19
15	Princess Charlotte	British	J. McKean	Liverpool	July 3
15	Rozalia	Port.	M. J. de Freitas	Pernambuco	—

### CALCUTTA DEPARTURES.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	Destination
Nov. 11	Mary	British	John Brown	Port Jackson
13	Dick	British	W. Harrison	Ceylon

### BOMBAY ARRIVAL.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	From Whence	Left
Oct. 15	Orient	British	W. Reynolds	England	June 18

### BOMBAY DEPARTURE.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	Destination
Oct. 17	York	British	James Talbert	London

## Passengers.

Per H. C. ship Princess Charlotte, from London to Calcutta.

Mrs. Sophia Parson; Mrs. Barrister and Child; Mrs. R. Becher; Rayerend E. Brodie; Mr. W. Barrister, Surgeon; Mr. R. Becher, Civil Service; Messrs. Laurensen, Bennett, Dallas, and Bishop, Cadets; Mr. W. Thompson, Free Mariner; a detachment of 40 Men, 4 Women, and 1 Child.

Per Orient, from England to Bombay.

Lieutenant Colonel and Mrs. Mackonochie; Captain and Mrs. Campbell; 2 Miss Sheriffs; Miss Moore; Miss Brown; Captain Crozier; Captain Cooke; Captain Hackness; Captain Newman; Messrs. Green and Grey, Assistant Surgeons; Messrs. Jones, Wilkinson, Isaac, Harrocks, and Hackness, Cadets; Mr. Brown, Free Mariner.

Per York, from Bombay for London.

Lady Anstruther; Miss Anstruther; William Currie, Esq.; William Cruickshanks, Esq.; Captain Finlay; Lieutenant Waddington; Lieutenant Bell; Mr. Greig.